

The Beginning Of The End

Long Beach Alliance Church • January 23rd, 2011 • Pastor Chris Lankford

The Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch out My hand on Egypt and bring out the sons of Israel from their midst. So Moses and Aaron did it; as the LORD commanded them, thus they did.

~Exodus 7:5-6 (NASB)

1) A Band Of Brothers Becomes A Slave Nation In Egypt

- A) Exodus begins in the aftermath of the extraordinary story of Joseph and his brothers (Genesis 38-50). The small band of brothers and their families (probably around 70'ish people, cf. Exodus 1:1-5) quickly multiplied to a nation (1:7).

- B) Some years later, a new Pharaoh rose to rule Egypt who had no history with Joseph's fame (1:8), and enslaved Israel, persecuting them bitterly (1:11-14), even attempting to have all the sons in Israel murdered (1:15-22).

2) A Savior Is Born To Deliver God's People

- A) God seems to be silent through Israel's ordeal, but quietly provides a miraculous deliverer for Israel through the extraordinary birth of Moses (2:1-10). However, Moses attempts to handle Israel's deliverance himself, and ends up exiled from both Egypt and Israel's people (2:11-15).

- B) Moses flees to the East of Egypt into the Midian desert, where he marries Zipporah, the daughter of a pagan priest, raising his children and shepherding his father-in-law's sheep for the next forty years (2:16-25).

- C) Unexpectedly, God speaks to Moses from a burning bush (3:1-6), commanding Moses to return to Egypt in order to deliver Israel from their Egyptian captivity (3:7-10).

- D) Moses objects to God's plan and makes every attempt to avoid God, Egypt, and the people of Israel, but God miraculously persists and compels Moses to go (3:11-4:28).

3) Freedom From Slavery Always Comes At A Price

- A) At first, Israel is very excited at God's offer of deliverance and freedom from Egypt (4:29-31), but Pharaoh is decidedly against God (and Moses), and embitters the people against Moses through hard labor and torture (5:1-21).

- B) Moses lashes out at God in anger, not understanding why God is not doing what He said He would do for Moses (and Israel, 5:22-23).

- C) God isn't moved by Moses' frustration, sending Moses back to Israel, who completely reject Moses (6:1-9). After this depressing defeat, God tells Moses and Aaron to go back to Pharaoh and demand Israel's release again, about which neither brother are very excited (6:10-7:7).

4) The Beginning Of The End

- A) God sends Moses and Aaron back to Pharaoh equipped with a sign miracle of God's domination over Pharaoh (7:8-10) which Pharaoh's magicians duplicate (7:11). Pharaoh rejects God's sign (7:12), setting off a nightmare for Egypt (7:13).